

Variants of the /t/ sound

FLAP “r” or TAPPED “t”: The /t/ phoneme is altered by its context in a variety of words. When it occurs in between vowel sounds or between voiced retroflex (/ɾ/) it becomes a flap “r” represented with the symbol /ɾ/. Examples:

butter: /bʌɾəɾ/ city: /sɪɾi/ sorting /sɔɾɪŋ/

However, this does not occur if the intonation of the word comes after the /t/ phoneme. For example:

sustain: /ˌsəs'teɪn/ and partake /ˌpɑr'tek/

Transcribe the following words:

fortitude – towards – retreat – beetle – letter – maintain – detail - relative – hospital – guilty – turtle

OMMITTED “t”: When the /t/ phoneme follows an /n/ sound, it is assimilated into the /n/ sound. Examples:

center /'se.nəɾ/ or internet /'ɪnəɾ.nət/

Transcribe these words:

international – antler – warranted – pointed – incidental – parental

PALATALIZED “t”: When the /t/ is followed by an “i” or “u”, it becomes a /tʃ/ sound, or a /tʃ/. Examples:

culture /'kʌl.tʃəɾ/ nation /'ne.ʃən/

Transcribe the following words:

furniture – nature – ratio – glatiar